
Schloss Eggenberg (Austria) No 931bis

Official name as proposed by the State Party:

The City of Graz – Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg

Location:

Community of Graz, Province of Styria,
Republic of Austria

Brief description:

Schloss Eggenberg was built in the late Renaissance at the start of the Baroque period. It has conserved its painted and stucco interior décor, the composition and the ornamental complexity of which reflect the Baroque and Rococo conceptions of the universe. It is set in the midst of a park with trees and parterres of later design.

Category of property:

In terms of categories of cultural property as defined in Article 1 of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a *monument*.

1. BASIC DATA

Included in the Tentative List: 8 February 2005

International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund for preparing the Nomination: None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre:

31 January 2005

14 January 2008

27 January 2010

Background: The nomination is a proposal for an extension of the City of Graz – Historic Centre, inscribed in 1999 on the basis of criteria (i) and (iv).

The examination of this extension proposal was deferred by the World Heritage Committee at its 30th session (Vilnius, 2006, Decision 30 COM 8B.51).

The extension proposal was again examined at the 33rd session of the World Heritage Committee (Seville, 2009), which took the decision 33 COM 8B.31:

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Documents WHC-09/33.COM/8B and WHC-09/33.COM/INF.8B1,*

2. *Refers the extension of the City of Graz – Historic Centre, to include Schloss Eggenberg, Austria, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:*

a) *Extend the buffer zone to the road connecting the historic centre to the Castle along its entire length, through the intermediate zone urbanised in the 20th century, so as to preserve the historic link that existed between the two elements;*

b) *Strengthen the authority and broaden the scope of competence of the City of Graz Historic Centre World Heritage Coordination Bureau, which is in charge of the management plan.*

Consultations: ICOMOS consulted its International Scientific Committee on Historic Towns and Villages.

Literature consulted (selection):

Mosser, M., Histoire des jardins de la Renaissance à nos jours, Paris, Flammarion, 2002.

Heilbron, J.L., Astronomie et églises, collection Bibliothèque scientifique, Paris, Belin, 2003.

Faucherre, N., Pellerin, A., Joly d'Aussy, D., Crazannes, logis alchimique, Paris, Le Croît vif, in 8, Paris, 2003.

Cohen, G.B. and Szabo F.A.J. (ed) Embodiments of power: building baroque cities in Europe, New York, Berghahn Books, 2008.

Technical Evaluation Mission: 8–10 September 2008

Additional information requested and received from the State Party: None

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report: 17 March 2010

2. THE PROPERTY

Description

Schloss Eggenberg is located c 3km west of the historic centre of Graz. It was built shortly after 1625, on the site of an earlier castle, as the state residence of Duke Hans Ulrich von Eggenberg (1568–1634), one of the most prominent political personalities of 17th century Austria. The Palace was linked with the city centre by a nearly straight road. The main zone of the nominated property consists of the Palace and its Park. The area is surrounded by a buffer zone, which encloses part of the surrounding small housing area and extends to a natural park area in the west. It includes the starting point of the avenue leading towards the city centre.

Schloss Eggenberg is generally presented as the joint work of the Italian-born architect to the Graz Court, Pietro de Pomis (1569–1633), and the architect Laurenz van de Syype from the Netherlands. It was planned by

the Duke for representative purposes, and it was also designed as a comprehensive architectural allegory, as a visible sign both of his new powerful worldly position and of the humanist-inspired vision of an ideal world. References are made to the utopias of the time, such as those of Tommaso Campanella, Thomas More, and Johann Valentin Andreae, part of whose works are conserved in the Eggenberg library. For example, there is a total of 365 windows in the Palace (equivalent to the days in a year) and the number of rooms on each floor is 31 (representative of the number of days in a month). Further numbers refer to weeks, hours, etc. The Hall of the Planets, the Chapel, and the Theatre are laid out on an axis that is of particular importance for the building.

The ground plan of the Schloss is a large rectangle (c 65m x 70m), recalling Spanish examples of Alcazar type construction, especially the castle-monastery of El Escorial. The main body of Schloss Eggenberg has three storeys. The corners are raised, forming tower-like additions with conical roofs. The inner part of the quadrangle is divided into three courtyards arranged in a T-shape. Axial symmetry was an architectural novelty, here used for the first time in Austria. Following the Spanish tradition, its plain exterior rejects all ornamentation in favour of the simple contrast between the white wall surfaces and the ochre colour of the structural elements. The inner courtyards, however, demonstrate an unexpected play of light and shade.

On the first level there is a richly decorated Mannerist grotto. The other rooms are more recent alterations.

In the centre of the building, at the intersection of the interior buildings, there is a central tower. This is the only surviving part of the 15th century castle. It includes a chapel on the second floor in Late Gothic style with tracery bays, gridded vaulting, a sculpted altar, and a painted retablo.

The second floor is made up of a cycle of 24 representative State Rooms. Its main focus is the *Hall of the Planets* so named because of the theme of its decorations. It was the work of the painter Hans Adam Weissenkircher (1646–95) from Salzburg, whose paintings are set into a vaulted stucco ceiling. The state rooms were created in two phases, representing the Baroque and Rococo style respectively. Of particular interest is the cycle of 600 ceiling paintings and friezes, executed by several court painters from 1666 to 1673, which has been completely preserved. The remaining decoration was created in 1754–63, and is based on the drawings of Josef Hueber, who also reconstructed the Eggenberg court theatre as the *Maria Schnee* (Our Lady of the Snows) palace church. The large angel sculptures of the Maria Schnee altar are by Philipp Jakob Straub and derive from an icon of the same name in Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome.

Three 18th century Oriental rooms are particularly noteworthy: their *Chinoiserie* decorations combine the Chinese and Japanese styles with European

characteristics. The Japanese room is decorated with imported painted paper screen panels. Dating from the beginning of the 17th century, they are a rare representation in the west of the Momoyama period in Japan (1570–1610), and depict the city of Osaka.

Five bedrooms in the north wing were painted by the Styrian artist Johann Baptist Anton Raunacher (1729–71). Bedroom 20 is dedicated to hunting scenes, 21 to bucolic scenes, 23 to card and other games, and 24 to the theatre.

The present Schloss Eggenberg Park was created from 1802 onwards as a sophisticated 'English Garden' where botanical rarities were acclimatised. The garden integrates some parts of the landscape garden. In the 20th century the garden lost some of its features, and starting in the 1990s it has undergone renovation and partial replanting, including the new Garden of the Planets, which was built on the site of the lost Pleasure Garden.

Extension

Graz is an exemplary model of the living heritage of a central European urban complex influenced by the secular presence of the Habsburgs. The old city is a harmonious blend of the architectural styles and artistic movements that have succeeded each other since the Middle Ages, together with cultural influences from the neighbouring regions.

History and development

The Eggenberg dynasty can be traced back to a landed patrician family in Graz in the early 15th century. Balthazar, a mint master of Emperor Frederick III, had the Orthof Castle built in the mid-15th century on the ancient trading route west of Graz. The chapel was built in the central tower in around 1470. The family took the name of Eggenberg at this time.

The rebuilding of the Castle was undertaken in 1625, with only the central tower of the former Palace being conserved. The work was commissioned by Prince Hans Ulrich von Eggenberg (1568–1634), of the Styrian Eggenberg dynasty. Educated at the Protestant University of Tübingen, he converted to Catholicism and became a proponent of the Counter-Reformation in the Holy Roman Empire. At the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries, he was a close collaborator and friend of the Archduke of Styria, and then of Emperor Ferdinand II. Towards the end of the period 1610–20 he was one of the most eminent dignitaries of the Empire. In 1621 he became Governor of Styria, and then an Imperial Prince and Duke of Krumau (Bohemia). He was at the height of his power when he undertook the building of Schloss Eggenberg on the site of the former family property, near Graz.

The Castle reflects the newly increased power of the Eggenbergs. Its architect was Pietro de Pomis (1569–1633), who was employed by the Emperor. Originally from the Milan area, he was an architect, painter, and medal-maker and was a leading light of the art of the Catholic Counter-Reformation in the Empire. Laurenz van de Syppe from the Netherlands continued his work at Graz from 1632 to 1634. Pietro Valnegro and Antonio Pozzo then completed the work on the Castle until 1646.

At the beginning of the 18th century the Eggenberg dynasty was suddenly extinguished, following the early death of the last male representative of the family. The Styrian possessions passed to the Counts Herberstein and Leslie. The Herberstein had the Castle redecorated from 1754 to 1763 in a Rococo style, under the direction of the Viennese architect Josef Hueber (1715–87). All the rooms were furnished with high-quality faience stoves, chandeliers, and wall lights of Bohemian glass. The court theatre was rebuilt as the Castle Church; its wooden gallery was modified into a Rococo oratory and included in the cycle of state rooms.

The garden was originally laid out geometrically in the 17th century Renaissance style. It was completely redesigned in the following century and transformed into a Rococo-style French garden, featuring hedged parterres. From 1820 onwards it was transformed into a landscape garden.

Having lost its functions in the early 19th century the Castle was opened to visitors as early as 1830. The Herberstein family sold the property in 1939 to the Province of Styria. Damaged during World War II, the ground floor of the Castle was converted into a museum and underwent alterations (1947–52). The reorganisation of the Museum rooms and collections at the beginning of the 2000s was especially notable for the opening of a *lapidarium* featuring Roman stone objects in the Park. An area of some 2000m² on the ground and first floors has been renovated for use as exhibition rooms, which were opened to the public in 2005.

3. OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE, INTEGRITY, AND AUTHENTICITY

Comparative analysis

The State Party draws a comparison between the remains of the original 16th century Castle, and particularly its tower and chapel, with the buildings in France by Jacques Cœur at Bourges and Jean Rolin at Autun, the architectural objectives and structures of which are considered to be similar to those of the Eggenberg dynasty and its first castle.

The castle of Hans Ulrich, built in the 17th century, is compared to El Escorial, built by Philip II and inscribed on the World Heritage List (Monastery and site of El Escorial, Spain, 1984). The comparison in this case is

based on the symbolism of the architectural choices and the geometrical juxtaposition of the courtyards.

The influence of northern Italy and its symbolism is also strongly present through the personality of the architect Pietro de Pomis and the role of the plans of the theoretician Sebastiano Serlio. The concept of the fortified Italian *castello* is also mentioned, even though the Castle does not possess any features of military architecture.

In France the Château de Richelieu, built by Armand-Jean du Plessis, Cardinal Richelieu, is of the same type. It was totally destroyed during the French Revolution. ICOMOS considers that Schloss Eggenberg must be considered in connection with the introduction into Styria of late Renaissance and early Baroque art and architecture, and its importance is closely linked with the cultural context of this region.

The Castle refers to several stylistic schools. It reveals the influence of the Italian Baroque, through its architect Pietro de Pomis, and more generally the intellectual influence of western and Mediterranean Europe in its design. Through its overall architecture, Schloss Eggenberg also has similarities with northern styles, such as the work of Laurenz van de Syppe. Reference can also be made to Schloss Johannisburg at Aschaffenburg (Bavaria), which is very similar in form and was built a few years earlier.

Several properties on the World Heritage List represent late Renaissance–Baroque architecture in Central Europe, such as the Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria 2001), Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrásy Avenue (Hungary, 1987 and 2002), the Historic Centre of Prague (Czech Republic, 1992), and Litomyšl Castle (Czech Republic, 1999).

In terms of interiors, Schloss Eggenberg bears witness to the intellectual demands of the Counter-Reformation and their expression in Baroque and Rococo decoration. Relatively speaking, a connection may be made on this point with Schönbrunn (Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn, Austria, 1996).

In this context, Schloss Eggenberg constitutes an important artistic and architectural example in Styria. It is considered to complement the historic integrity of the City of Graz and it strengthens the expression of its outstanding universal value, which has already been recognised.

Schloss Eggenberg is not mentioned in the comparative analysis of the nomination dossier of the City of Graz – Historic Centre (1999). However, the construction of the castle is referred to in the description of the property and the section on history.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of the inscription of Schloss Eggenberg as an extension of the City of Graz – Historic Centre.

Justification of the Outstanding Universal Value

The extension is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- From the 15th to the 18th century Schloss Eggenberg and the City of Graz were inseparably linked because of the influence of the Eggenberg dynasty, which made a major contribution to the cultural and political development of the city and the region. In many of their aspects, the architecture and decoration of the Castle reflect this history.
- Schloss Eggenberg is an exceptionally well preserved example which bears witness, through its architecture and external decoration, to the influence of the late Italian Renaissance and the Baroque period.
- Its interior decoration bears testimony to the Baroque and Rococo styles, expressing an ambitious aesthetic and intellectual programme illustrating the cosmography of the period.

Justification for the inscription of the original nomination:

The historic centre of the City of Graz reflects artistic and architectural movements originating from the Germanic region, the Balkans, and the Mediterranean, for which it served as a crossroads for centuries. The greatest architects and artists of these different regions expressed themselves forcefully here and thus created brilliant syntheses.

The urban complex forming the historic centre of the City of Graz is an exceptional example of a harmonious integration of architectural styles from successive periods. Each age is represented by typical buildings, which are often masterpieces. The urban physiognomy faithfully tells the story of its historic development.

ICOMOS considers that this justification is appropriate because Schloss Eggenberg, its park and the first stretch of the avenue leading towards the historic centre of the city of Graz complement the main property, and contribute to the strengthening of its outstanding universal value.

Integrity and Authenticity

Integrity

The Schloss Eggenberg and the Eggenberg dynasty are inseparably linked with the Province of Styria and its capital, the city of Graz, not only geographically but also from the viewpoints of history, culture, and traditions.

The Castle and the garden have conserved their overall architectural and structural integrity.

The estate, which is located some 3 km from the city centre, was originally linked to the centre by an avenue, of which only an original stretch of c 500m still remains. This part of the avenue, which begins at the exit from the castle, is included in the proposed extension. The rest of the avenue is conserved, but within the 20th century urban fabric; not having any special protection, this link between the city centre and the Castle has undergone substantial restructuring as a result of the conurbation's urban development, and the development of its industry, railway network and university. It does however physically express the complementarity between the historic centre and the residence of one of its main aristocratic families. In its new proposal, the State Party suggests that the road should be included in a specific buffer zone (Zone XIII), which should be added, to would provide a continuous connection between the property and the proposed extension. This proposal complies with recommendation a) of World Heritage Committee recommendation 33 COM 8B.31.

ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the proposed extension is satisfactory.

ICOMOS considers that the property and its proposed extension are two complementary dimensions of the historical development of the city of Graz, and of the lifestyle of its elites in the modern period. This complementarity is tangibly expressed in the new extended buffer zone which connects the property and the proposed extension.

Authenticity

Schloss Eggenberg was largely unoccupied throughout the 19th century, as the Herberstein family only spent a few weeks there each year. The furniture and the décor have thus remained intact and complete. The only notable alterations in the 20th century affected the rooms on the ground floor, which were converted to museum galleries.

The official and state rooms of the Castle, on the first floor, are an authentic example of a Baroque and Rococo interior, which are matched by few other similar buildings.

Part of the church décor was painted over after World War II. Restoration of the underlying murals is planned over the next few years.

The materials and external surfaces of the Castle have been preserved, with restorations that respect the original.

The roofs have been restored unchanged, with the replacement of original tiles in poor condition and the refixing of the surviving original tiles.

The grotto has been restored in the same way.

The retable of the chapel altar, which was broken up in the 18th century and sold in 1929, has been recovered and reassembled and was replaced in 1996.

Since it became public property in 1939, the Park has lost some of its decorative and botanical elements (rose mound, the Temple of Bacchus, and the former Pleasure Garden), restoration of which has been announced. The kitchen garden was redesigned as a contemporary garden in 2002 by Helga Maria Tornquist. A new building has been constructed on the site of the former orangery to house the archaeological collections.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity have been met.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The extension is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (ii) and (iv), and of the additional criterion (vi). The City of Graz – Historic Centre property was inscribed on the basis of criteria (ii) and (iv). Criterion (vi) is thus an additional criterion which is specific to the extension.

Criterion (ii): exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design.

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that, like the historic centre of Graz which reflects artistic interchanges between the Germanic area, the Balkans, and the Mediterranean, Schloss Eggenberg is an exemplary illustration of the way in which the architectural and decorative concepts of the Romance countries were received in Central Europe. The humanistic spirit of Protestantism is combined here with iconographic paradigms of southern Catholic origin.

ICOMOS considers that Schloss Eggenberg bears witness, through the architects and artists who worked there, to cultural interchanges between central and southern Europe in the late Renaissance and Baroque periods, particularly in Styria. Its decorative programme well reflects the intellectual needs of the period in the context of the Counter-Reformation, and the Rococo decorations bear witness to the lifestyle of 18th century Europe.

As had already been indicated in the ICOMOS evaluation in 2006, this is an important example for Styria which cannot, however, be considered as having universal value in itself. ICOMOS considers that this criterion can only be justified through an effective

association with the historic centre of Graz illustrating the influence of the philosophical ideas and architectural principles that originated in southern and central Europe, which has been tangibly expressed by the extension of the buffer zone.

ICOMOS considers that as a result of the effective link with the historic centre of Graz, this criterion has been justified.

Criterion (iv): be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that Schloss Eggenberg is one of the masterpieces that make up the urban complex of the historic centre of Graz. It represents the Italian *castello* type which was one of the standards of European aristocratic architecture from the early Renaissance period.

Forming an integral part of the City of Graz as the residence of the governors of the town and the region, Schloss Eggenberg is an important component of the integrity of Graz as an example of urban planning and the harmonious integration of buildings successively constructed in different architectural styles.

It is unrivalled by any other monument in its completely preserved interior decoration of the highest intellectual quality, which constitutes an architectural and decorative model of contemporary conceptions of the universe.

ICOMOS considers that Schloss Eggenberg and its Park complete the range of types of architecture already present in the historic centre of Graz, as an example of town planning and the harmonious integration of buildings erected successively in different architectural styles marked by the successful encounter between various cultural and artistic movements. As part of the city, since it was the governors' residence, Schloss Eggenberg is an important element that helps to strengthen the integrity of the historic centre of Graz.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified.

Criterion (vi): be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

The State Party proposed this as an additional criterion on the grounds that Schloss Eggenberg bears an exceptional testimony to the political and intellectual programme of the man who commissioned it. It is therefore an outstanding monument of a personal world view transformed into an elaborate total work of art.

ICOMOS considers that, although the Castle, the building of which began in 1625, and its initial decorative scheme reflect the original desire of its initiator to assert his power, the 18th century alterations, together with later changes to the design of the Park, have obliterated this dimension of expressing a cultural tradition and illustrating ideas in an architectural and artistic work.

ICOMOS considers that, in the current context with the Castle nominated on its own as an extension to the property and not as an analysis of this new criterion for the entire property, it has not been justified.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been justified.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed extension fully meets criteria (ii) and (iv) and that it significantly strengthens the Outstanding Universal Value of the City of Graz – Historic Centre.

Description of the attributes

- Schloss Eggenberg complements the living urban heritage of the City of Graz – Historic Centre. It constitutes a remarkable set of monuments which strengthens the testimony provided by the city of the synthesis of central and southern European cultures, from the end of the Renaissance to the Baroque and Rococo periods. It provides a remarkable stylistic synthesis of them with its own specific values.
- Schloss Eggenberg bears witness both to the artistic and intellectual flourishing of the Counter-Reform in central Europe and to a lifestyle which was specific to the aristocratic elites of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.
- Schloss Eggenberg, with its park and its landscapes, complements the range of buildings which form the historic centre of the city of Graz, by adding an eminently aristocratic residence which is at once nearby and distant from the urban centre.

4. FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY

Development pressures

The zone near the Castle is a suburban area, which is densely built-up in certain places.

The State Party has indicated that there are five construction projects of some significance, all of which, however, are obliged to comply with specific directives (see *Protection, Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone*): a restaurant, a group of dwellings, a secondary school, a project for the reconstruction of the Eggenberg baths, and the extension of the Castle lapidarium next to the northern part of the Castle walls.

Behind the castle to the west, on the slope of a hill, the building of individual houses may have an impact on the landscape.

Tourism pressures

The Castle, the Museum, and the Park are visited by some 300,000 people each year. The facilities and spaces provided allow the reception of visitors without giving rise to any particular threat to the property. A reasonable increase in the number of visitors, which would result if the property were inscribed on the List, could take place without major changes to the reception infrastructures and without generating any particular pressures.

The use of the Castle for official receptions could cause some damage to the interior of the property, particularly because of repeated modifications to the relative humidity of the rooms, which could affect the conservation of wall paintings and the most fragile decorations. It is agreed, under the management plan, that the Castle will only be used for this purpose five times a year, and in new rooms specially adapted for receptions.

Environmental pressures

There are no pressures linked to air quality, which is good, or pollution, which is under control.

Road traffic density around the Park is low.

Natural disasters

Schloss Eggenberg is not situated in zones affected by flooding, landslides or avalanches, or earthquakes. Fire risk is regularly monitored by the fire service.

Impact of climate change

There is no evidence of climate change in measurements taken in the City of Graz.

ICOMOS considers that the main threat to the property is urban development.

5. PROTECTION, CONSERVATION, AND MANAGEMENT

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The boundaries of the property proposed as an extension are those of the Park, and include the ancient road leading to the City of Graz, over a distance of 500m. The total area is 19.1 ha. There are no permanent residents in the property.

The extended property will have a total area of 91.1 ha.

The buffer zone of the proposed extension covers a large area to the west of the property, in order to conserve the quality of the landscape on the hillside to the rear of the park. To the north and south, it covers built-up zones which are 150 metres and 350 metres wide. To the east, it consists of quite a wide strip on either side of the avenue forming the first stretch of the road towards the city. The areas are partly built-up with residential properties and public buildings (see *Development pressures*).

Between the Castle and the City, the buffer zone has been enlarged (Zone XIII) to include the ancient road linking the Palace to the historic centre of the city of Graz. It continues along Eggenberg Allee beyond the part already included in the property; it follows Eggenberg Strasse, crosses the railway bridge, and arrives at a road junction where it widens out to form an acute angle at Annenstrasse. Here it joins the urban buffer zone. The zone is 2040 metres long, and 70 metres wide (but slightly wider where it joins the urban buffer zone). It includes the buildings next to the road on both sides.

ICOMOS considers that the extension of the buffer zone along the ancient road provides a tangible expression of the physical and historic links between Schloss Eggenberg and the historic centre of the city of Graz. It complies with recommendation a) of decision 33 COM 8B.31.

The buffer zone of the extended property will have an area of 24.2ha.

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries of the property and of the new continuous buffer zone between the city and the castle are satisfactory.

Ownership

Schloss Eggenberg and its Park are the property of the Province of Styria. They have been managed by the *Steiermärkische Landesmuseum Joanneum* since 1947. They constitute an entirely public space.

Protection

Legal protection

Schloss Eggenberg is protected under the Austrian Monument Protection Act (533/1923 and amendments). The protection covers both immovable and movable property of historical, artistic, or other cultural value. The Act was revised in 1999 and amended by a Decree in 2006. The application of the legal protection is the responsibility of the Education, Art, and Culture Ministry.

At provincial level, Schloss Eggenberg and its Park are protected under the Graz Historic Centre Conservation Act (GAEG, 1974 and 1980). This Act has been updated

and supplemented by the Graz Historic Centre Preservation Act (2008).

At local level, the Castle and its Park are subject to the regulations and decisions associated with the current Urban Development Plan and the Land Use Plan of the City of Graz. These plans set out the general framework of inquiries for building permits, particularly in the buffer zone. The buffer zone is protected and is subject to a specific regime for the granting of building permits and modifying existing housing. Inside the Schloss Eggenberg buffer zone, constructions and extensions to buildings must not exceed the prescribed heights of the current housing in the quarters concerned. These provisions have been extended to Zone XIII, corresponding to the road linking the castle to the city, and specific provisions have been added, in particular a programme for the improvement of architectural and urban quality and of visual perspectives. All these measures are set out and harmonised in the new framework document: Graz Urban Planning (2009).

ICOMOS considers that the protective measures taken, particularly the regulatory extension applying to buffer zone XIII, are satisfactory.

Traditional protection

There is no traditional protection as such, apart from the attachment of the inhabitants of Graz and Styria to the Castle and its Park, a site which is one of the most popular in the region with visitors.

Effectiveness of protection measures

With regard to the Castle and its Park, the regulations in force are playing their role.

With regard to the buffer zone of the property proposed as an extension, the five major projects announced by the State Party seem to be appropriately controlled, particularly in terms of prescribed height and architectural conformity. The programme for the gradual architectural and urban improvement of buffer zone XIII is satisfactory.

ICOMOS considers that the protective measures for the property nominated for the extension are adequate.

Conservation

Inventories, recording, research

The Museum has reports on the inspection and monitoring of the property since the 19th century.

Existing documents and publications are abundant; they show that scientific knowledge exists concerning not only the architecture, but also all the decoration and furniture.

Research concerning the restoration of the gardens led to the production of a guide and reference document in 1993, and these have recently been updated. A handbook of recommendations for the architectural and decorative conservation of the Castle was also compiled in 2005.

Present state of conservation

The Castle and Park are in a good state of conservation.

Active conservation measures

Several restorations of the Castle building took place in the 20th century, particularly following the installation of the Museum on the ground floor.

The main recent conservation programme took place from 1983 to 1999 and was carried out with all the necessary scientific safeguards as regards preliminary studies and execution of works. The conservation works were conducted in turn on the chapel, the central tower, the roofs, and the facades.

A glazed entrance chamber was installed in the chapel to make visits possible without causing damage to the furniture as a result of excessively large variations in relative humidity and temperature. The chamber installation is reversible and does not affect the integrity of the chapel.

There have been several conservation campaigns on the state rooms on the first floor. Work was carried out on the prestigious Hall of the Planets between 1979 and 1983. All the other rooms were covered during an extensive programme implemented from 1994 onwards.

The interior space of the Museum and the presentation of the collections were restructured as part of a major programme in the early 2000s. These changes have not affected the integrity/authenticity or the conservation of the property.

In 1993 a guide to the management/conservation of the Park was scientifically compiled, with a view to carrying out gradual restoration of the landscape structure and planting composition. These objectives led to visible results from 2000 onwards. In 2001–2003 the abandoned parts of the Park were restructured so as to evoke the theme of the planets.

A visitor reception and accompaniment service is organised by the Museum department.

Maintenance

Routine maintenance is carried out by the Museum staff and the Park staff.

Effectiveness of conservation measures

The National and Regional Monuments Departments intervene for the conservation and restoration of the property, in conjunction with their specialist archaeology, architecture, and monument inventory units. The restoration–conservation works carried out at Schloss Eggenberg and in its Park have been well conducted and effective. They have maintained and in many cases restored the integrity/authenticity of the property proposed as an extension.

ICOMOS considers that the conservation measures for the Castle and its Park are appropriate, and that today they constitute a coherent ensemble whose integrity and authenticity are of good quality.

ICOMOS considers that the conservation measures are satisfactory.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

For the Castle and its historic Park, the management structure and processes consist of the following elements:

- studies on and the scientific monitoring of the conservation of the Castle and its historic Park are carried out by the Federal Historic Monuments Office (BDA);
- the management of the site and the Museum and the reception of visitors are carried out by the permanent staff of the *Landesmuseum Joanneum*, under the control of the Region of Styria. The second floor of the Castle is open for guided visits. The Castle can be reached by public transport, and there is a parking area for 300 vehicles.

The protection measures inside the buffer zone are enforced by the departments of the City of Graz, under the control of the relevant national and regional authorities.

The implementation of the Management Plan (December 2006) has been the responsibility of the City of Graz Historic Centre World Heritage Coordination Bureau since the start of 2007. The Bureau brings together representatives of the various partners involved in the management of the property. It has been operational since the start of 2009. The scope of its action includes the property proposed for extension. In accordance with recommendation b) of decision 33 COM 8B.31, the role and powers of the Coordination Bureau have been strengthened. One of its tasks is the permanent coordination of the application of the Management Plan, and it harmonises the actions of the various partners and parties involved: municipal departments, administrative

bodies and civil authorities, particularly with the Historic Monuments Preservation Department, citizens' associations, etc. It acts as a body for mediation, information and the monitoring of actions and control of their conformity. Its role as a mediator and a body which builds intermediate consensus is important, as shown by the creation of a detailed project, acceptable to all parties, for additional buffer zone no. XIII, and by the fact that the number of appeals against world heritage property management decisions was reduced to zero in 2009, compared with the previous total of 41.

ICOMOS wishes to express its satisfaction that a Coordination Bureau has been set up which coordinates the efforts of the various partners in the management of the extended property, whose powers have been strengthened, and which has proven its effectiveness. Recommendation b) of decision 33 COM 8B.31 has been fully complied with.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

A management-restoration guide exists for the Park, which was drawn up in 1993 in conjunction with the Historic Monuments Department. The document was revised and updated in 2006 in the form of the Park management-conservation plan (*Parkpflegewerk*).

The management plan adopted in December 2006 (City of Graz Historic Centre, Management Plan 2007) was drawn up in the first instance as a response to the Committee's decision 30 COM 8B.51 (Vilnius, 2006) and secondly to apply to the ensemble formed by the property already inscribed on the List and the proposed extension.

It includes the general guidelines for the management and conservation of the property and its buffer zone and a master plan for the land and the property.

So far as the property proposed as an extension is concerned, this is a master plan for the management of spaces and landscapes. It also sets out a programme of works necessary to maintain and reinforce the integrity/authenticity of the environment of the property.

Several programmes have been created since 2004 for the presentation and promotion of the property, particularly with regard to the Museum collections.

ICOMOS considers that there is a coherent and effective management system in place for the Castle and its Park. The joint management plan, for the property already inscribed and the proposed extension, complies with its recommendations.

Risk preparedness

The property and its possible extension are considered in the evaluation and monitoring of risk factors by the

Municipality and the Region, and in the intervention procedures of the local and regional civil protection authorities in the event of an accident.

A fire detection system is in place in the Castle, together with emergency procedures for the evacuation of visitors in the event of an accident.

Involvement of the local communities

With regard to the property proposed as an extension, the Municipality of Graz is mainly involved in the land and urban planning management of the buffer zone.

The Coordination Bureau is in regular contact with citizens' associations which take an interest in the property. The associations are thus involved in the management process.

Resources, including staffing levels, expertise and training

Schloss Eggenberg is entirely financed by the *Landesmuseum Joanneum* (stakeholders: Province of Styria 85%, City of Graz 15%).

Special subsidies can be granted via the Federal Monuments Department.

Until 2001, the restoration of the state rooms was financed by a radio and television tax.

Since 1985, 11 million euros have been invested in restoration. The restoration of the interior, which began in 1993, has been financed to the extent of about 2 million euros.

In addition, 5 million euros have been granted for the reorganisation and expansion of the Museum's collections.

The Park has been granted subsidies of 800,000 euros.

Everyday maintenance is carried out by the staff of technicians, caretakers, and cleaners (38 persons). There are eleven scientists, 36 staff concerned with visitors, and 44 security staff, both full-time and part-time.

Experts from other departments of the *Landesmuseum Joanneum* can be called in as required.

Eight restorers work in the Museum, several of whom specialise in paintings.

The various staff take training courses from time to time to increase their skills.

Effectiveness of current management

ICOMOS considers that the current management of the property proposed as an extension is effective. It is well

established, as regards both the conservation of the Castle and its Park and the museographic activity and the control of urban development in the buffer zone. It is provided with significant human and material resources. Initially it was more a management system with clearly defined roles for the Region and the Municipality, but today it is coordinated and controlled by the property's Coordination Bureau.

ICOMOS considers that the management system of the proposed extension is adequate.

6. MONITORING

Since 2005 the regular monitoring of the conservation and maintenance of the Castle and the gardens has followed the recommendations of a handbook from the Buildings Department and a guide to the restoration-conservation of the Park. They are carried out by the staff and scientific officials of the *Landesmuseum Joanneum*. They constitute the monitoring of the property proposed as an extension, which comprises in particular:

- The Park and its immovable property are assessed annually; the vegetation is continuously monitored by the staff in charge of planting and upkeep.
- The built elements of the Castle, and in particular the roofs, the drains, the wall surfaces, and the openings, are checked annually; the functional elements are under permanent surveillance by the Museum staff.
- Interior atmospheric parameters are continuously monitored.
- The fire alert and protection system is checked annually by specialists, and also where necessary at the request of the Museum.
- The interior paintings and decorative elements are continuously monitored; the furniture is checked annually.

Regular monitoring is also carried out on the state of the collections.

All the inspection, control, and monitoring evaluation reports constitute a basic documentation for the Castle and its related elements. The *Landesmuseum Joanneum* has also produced an annual overview report since its creation in the 19th century.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring is adequate.

7. CONCLUSIONS

ICOMOS recognises the significant strengthening of the integrity and outstanding universal value of the "City of Graz – Historic Centre" property by its extension to include Schloss Eggenberg.

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the extension of the City of Graz – Historic Centre to include Schloss Eggenberg and become City of Graz – Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg be approved on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iv)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

The City of Graz – Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg bear witness to an exemplary model of the living heritage of a central European urban complex influenced by the secular presence of the Habsburgs and the cultural and artistic role played by the main aristocratic families. They are a harmonious blend of the architectural styles and artistic movements that have succeeded each other from the Middle Ages until the 18th century, in the many neighbouring regions of Central and Mediterranean Europe. They embody a diversified and highly comprehensive ensemble of architectural, decorative and landscape examples of these interchanges of influence.

Criterion (ii): City of Graz - Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg reflects artistic and architectural movements originating from the Germanic region, the Balkans and the Mediterranean, for which it served as a crossroads for centuries. The greatest architects and artists of these different regions expressed themselves forcefully here and thus created brilliant syntheses.

Criterion (iv): The urban complex forming City of Graz – Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg is an exceptional example of a harmonious integration of architectural styles from successive periods. Each age is represented by typical buildings, which are often masterpieces. The physiognomy of the city and of the castle faithfully tells the story of their common historic and cultural development.

Integrity and authenticity

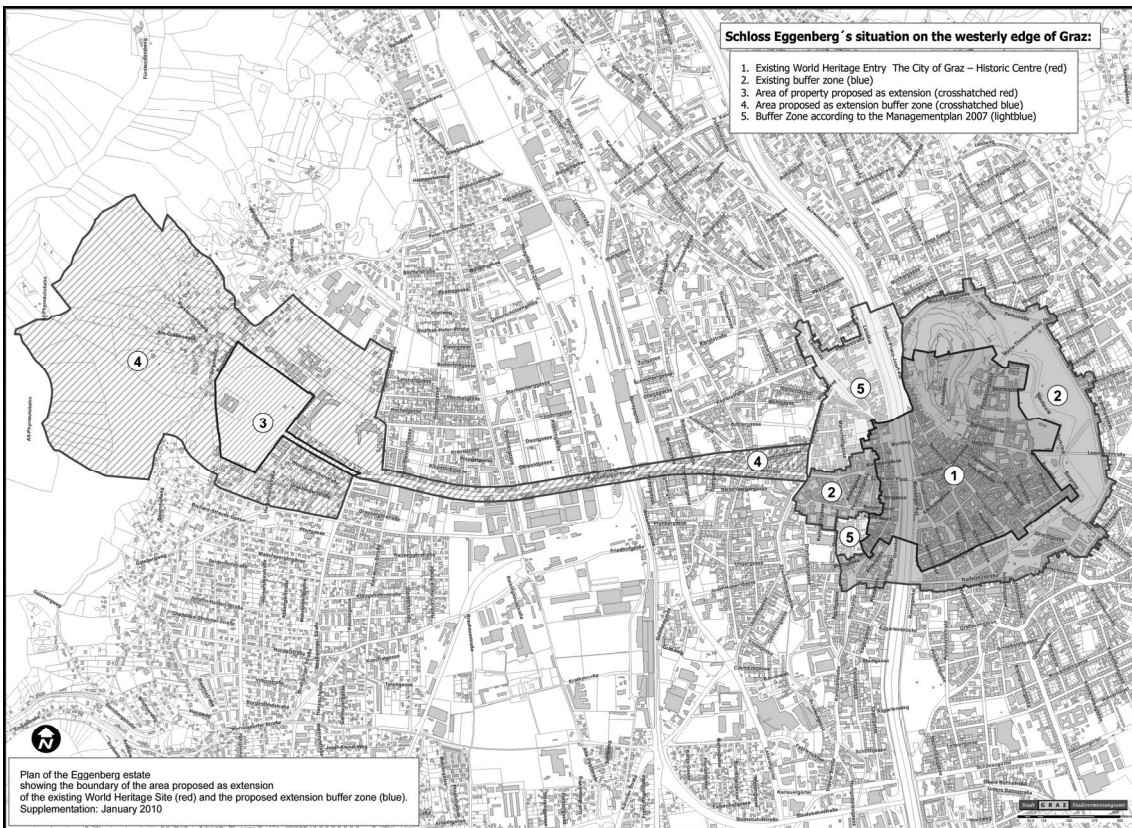
The extension of the City of Graz – Historic Centre property to include Schloss Eggenberg significantly strengthens the integrity of the property. The extension gives rise to the new enlarged buffer zone which is continuous, and includes the ancient road. Furthermore, the castle and its gardens have conserved satisfactory architectural and structural integrity. The external authenticity of the castle is good, and that of the baroque interior on the first floor is excellent. The authenticity of the ground floor, which has been converted into a museum, and that of the garden, which has been partly redesigned and restored, are of a lower level which however remains acceptable.

Protection and management requirements

Schloss Eggenberg is protected under the Austrian Monument Protection Act (533/1923 and amendments). The Management Plan has been in place since 2007 and brings together the town plan of 2009 and all protection and conservation decisions relating to the extended property and the buffer zone, enlarged to include the road leading from the historic centre of the city of Graz to Schloss Eggenberg. The Coordination Bureau for the extended property has been in place since 2009, and has been granted strengthened and effective overarching powers. However, particular care needs to be taken with regard to urban development pressures inside the property and its buffer zone, in order to maintain the outstanding universal value of the property and ensure that it is fully expressed.

ICOMOS recommends that the State Party should give consideration to the following point:

- Ensure effective control of works projects in the various parts of the enlarged buffer zone so as to ensure the long-term conservation of the property's landscape integrity.



Map showing the boundaries of the historic centre of Graz and Schloss Eggenberg



Aerial view of Schloss Eggenberg



Schloss Eggenberg - Main front



Planetary Room



View of the pond